(b) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) whether the Indian Railways has since chalked out plans to invest the amount given by ADB;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the terms and conditions of providing fund by ADB to the Indian Railways.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (e) No, Sir. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has as yet not agreed to provide second ADB loan. Ministry of Railways is presently in a dialogue with Asian Development Bank (ADB) for a possible loan. Railways have posed the following five projects to ADB for possible funding:

1. Daund-Gulbarga Doubling
2. Sambalpur-Titlagarh Doubling
3. Raipur-Titlagarh Doubling
4. Pune-Guntakal RE
5. Hospet-Tinaighat section

Since the loan has not been finalized as yet, details as well as terms and conditions are not available.

Protection of railway properties from Maoists

1669. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:
PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Maoists have damaged and destroyed railway properties worth crores of rupees in States during the year 2007;

(b) if so, the details of properties destroyed or damaged by Maoists during the year 2007;

(c) whether the Railways has adopted any strategy to protect properties from Maoists; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the year 2007, 34 incidents of damage to Railway property by Maoists have been reported in which property worth Rs. 5,86,59,969/- have been destroyed.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. "Policing" being a State's subject, prevention, registration and investigation of crime on Railways including running trains is the constitutional responsibility of the States' Governments concerned. However, for better protection of Railway passengers and Railway property, following steps are being taken by Railways:—

1. Close co-ordination is maintained with State Police and Government Railway Police to combat activities of Maoists in vulnerable sections of affected States.

2. Vulnerable and sensitive sections/stations of affected States have been identified and patrolling by Government Railway Police, State Police and Railway Protection Force has been intensified.

3. Periodical meetings with State Administrations of affected States and police authorities are being regularly held by Railway Administration to formulate effective joint strategy to combat the problem of Naxal/Maoists attack over Railway system.

4. Sharing of intelligence between RPF, GRP and Intelligence Bureau of affected States have been given priority to combat Maoists attack on Railways.

5. Guarding of vital installations and bridges has been intensified in vulnerable and sensitive areas.

New Railway line in Assam

1670. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry is considering new proposal for opening of new railway line in Assam;

(b) whether his Ministry would conduct survey for consideration of the openings of new railway line through Barpeta, Hajo, Swalkuchi to Guwahati from Jogigopha extending the new proposed railway line from Mainaguri to Jogigopha, considering the historical importance and tourism development of those places; and

(c) whether his Ministry has received a number of representations demanding Bijni a sub divisional headquarter in the State of Assam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Based on demands, surveys have been taken up for new lines in Assam.

(b) No such survey is proposed to be taken up.

(c) No, Sir.

Electrification of railway lines in Tamil Nadu

1671. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Tamil Nadu is the most backward State in electrification of railway lines;

(b) if so, the length of railway line electrified out of the total length of railway line in the State;

(c) whether there is any proposal to electrify all the railway lines in the State during the Eleventh Plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Out of total 4121 route kilometres, 899 route kilometres are electrified in the State of Tamil Nadu.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Electrification of Villupuram-Tiruchirappalli-Madurai,